



MCESA

Maricopa County Education Service Agency

To help you process all of the information provided in the Assessment Development webcast, consider these questions:

1. Who is MCESA?
2. Why have they facilitated the development of assessments for special area courses?
3. What are two things that support the quality of the assessments?
4. What part of the assessment development process contributes to valid content?
5. What part of the assessment development process contributes to fair and reliable items?
6. What effect could these assessments have on classroom practices?
7. What are you still wondering?



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Suggested Follow-up Activities

- Register for the one-day workshop on October 2nd or 3rd to study item specifications in-depth. <http://maricopacountyesa.wildapricot.org/training>
- Refer to the FAQ section of the MCESA website for responses to common questions.
- Share what you have learned with colleagues.

References

Haladyna, T.M. (1997). *Writing test items to evaluate higher order thinking*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Haladyna, T.M. (2004). *Developing and validating multiple-choice test items*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates: Mahwah, NJ.

Rabinowitz, S., Sato, E., Berkes, E. (2011). *Choosing assessments for measuring student growth*. Report prepared for the Student Growth Measure Task Force. San Francisco: West Ed.

Possible answers to questions:

1. Maricopa County Education Service Agency, Office of the County Superintendent
2. To help districts implement ARS 15-203, To provide a valid and reliable test for Group B teachers
3. Advisement from research and assessment experts, Collaboration with a professional test writing company,
4. Aligning assessments to standards, Following research-based guidelines for test writing
5. Alignment to standards, Content review by teachers, Field testing
6. Bias review, Content review, Field testing
6. Focused curriculum, Increased focus on vocabulary and content language, Information about student's knowledge, Clear expectations for students, Students feel more accountable